

NEBRASKA WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP REPORT

Released 4/27/48 Noon

Week Ending 4/26/48

WEATHER The week was warm and windy. Rainfall was spotted, and varied from excessive in the extreme southeast to none locally in the southwestern portion of the State.

CROPS A slow two inch rain is needed badly for crops throughout the State. The week-end rain, including that up to Monday morning, was ample for the time being in only one-fourth of the State. Only part of southeastern, northeastern and extreme western Panhandle areas received temporary relief. The week-end moisture in the balance of the State was inadequate even for temporary relief. The subsoil moisture supply is not nearly as good as expected. Although the soil moisture tests have not been completed, yet, most of the winter wheat bolt tests have been completed and not only is the penetration not nearly as deep as last spring, but the degree of saturation is much less and the surface extremely dry and unfavorable except for areas receiving the recent rain.

Winter wheat in the south-central and eastern counties did not germinate well last fall. Stands are very thin, little stooling, off color, with development far below normal. The soil moisture is very short, generally. The top 3 inches is dry with cracks exposing the roots to the air. In the second, third and fourth foot, moisture is deficient, ranging from moderately wet down to dry with an average somewhere between slightly damp and moderately wet. Very little wet soil was encountered. Rains are needed at once for wheat and even for oats and barley.

In western Nebraska, the wheat outlook is best in Dundy, Hitchcock, Chase, Hayes, Perkins, Keith, Deuel and eastern Cheyenne counties. This area has good subsoil moisture ranging from moderate to wet, but the top soil was dry almost to a depth of 6 inches. Across the lower part of the Panhandle, wheat is rather well developed in Deuel and eastern Cheyenne counties, but dwindles to very poor in Kimball and southern Morrill counties. In some places, the wheat on continuous cropped land was so dry it would crackle and had dry leaves at the base. Stands were thinner than usual and stooling was not nearly as heavy as a year ago. Most of the summer fallow wheat had moisture extending to a depth of four feet, but not sufficient to mature it. In the northern part of the Panhandle, the soil moisture situation is somewhat better, but the stands a little thin and ragged. There has been some loss from soil blowing.

Pastures are dry. They have not had sufficient top moisture to start growth, except in the eastern part of the State, where they are just about at a standstill. The sugar beet acreage is expected to be lower, with an increase in the bean acreage and possibly the potato acreage. Water for irrigation in the State appears ample for the need this summer, with most of the reservoirs being filled to capacity. Ditches are being cleaned in the tri-county area that have not been in operation for the last two years. Alfalfa fields are being flooded in this area. For the most part, the alfalfa crop appears to hold promise of a good first cutting.

Preparation of corn ground is well along and a few southern counties reported that planting has started. The acreage may be somewhat larger than intended because of more abandoned winter wheat than expected at too late a date to plant spring small grain crops.

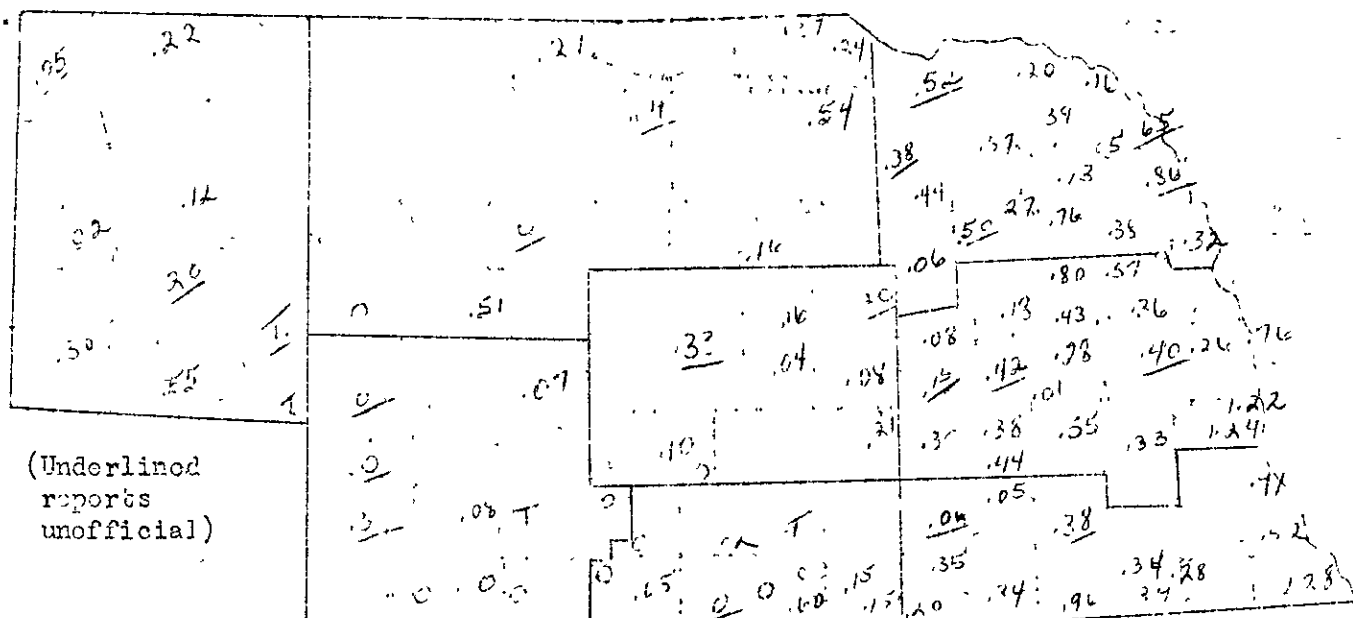
LIVESTOCK Cattle appeared to come through the winter in good condition and the calf crop is expected to be a rather high percentage. Lamb feeding has been held on a little longer than usual, and there will be a considerable number of the lambs shorn before being marketed. The outlook for the pig crop is not encouraging, as only a few pigs are in evidence, which indicates that the spring crop will be smaller.

Issued by the Weather Bureau and the State and Federal Depts. of Agriculture.

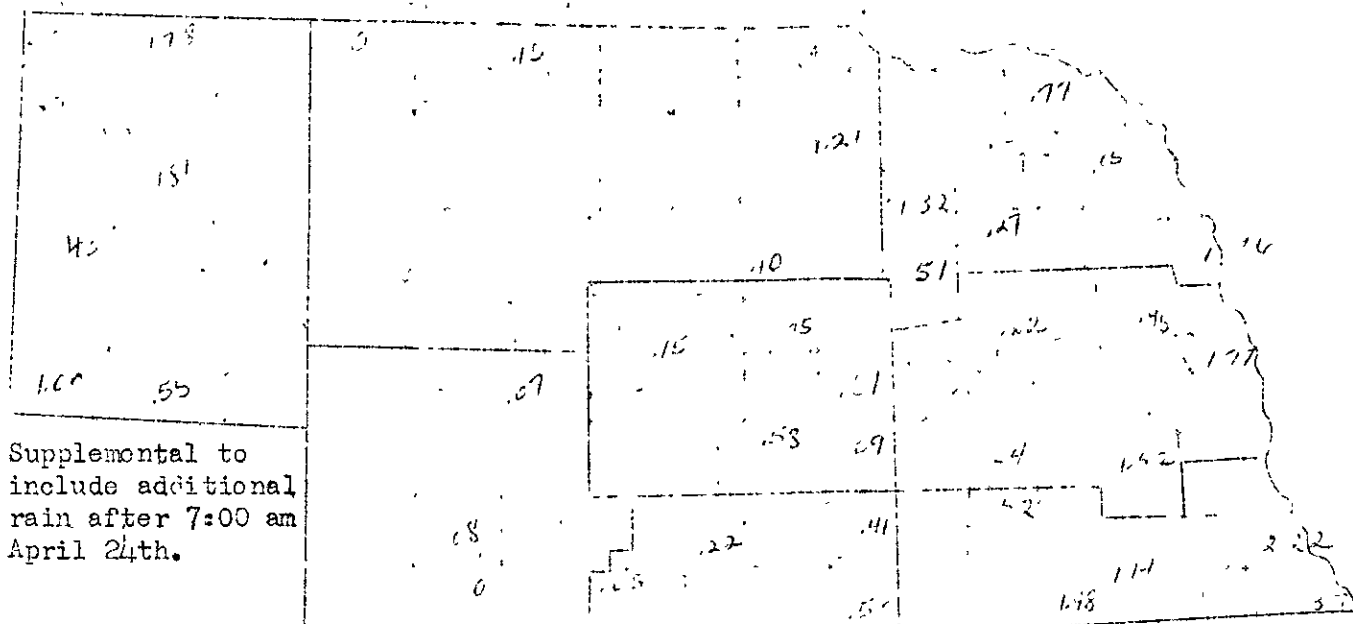
WEATHER BUREAU TELEGRAPHIC REPORT OF PRECIPITATION FOR WEEK ENDING APRIL 26, 1948.

Eastern Division		Eastern Div., Cont'd.		Central Division		Western Division	
Albion	.51	Hastings	.41	Broken Bow	.15	Alliance	.81
Auburn	2.22	Lincoln	1.52	Burwell	.10	Chadron	1.73
Beatrice	1.14	Norfolk	.27	Cambridge	.05	Culbertson	0
Columbus	.92	Oakdale	1.32	Foldrege	.22	Hayes Center	.03
Fairbury	1.48	Omaha	1.97	North Loup	.75	Kimball	1.00
Fairmont	.52	Red Cloud	.50	North Platte	.07	Merriman	0
Falls City	3.76	St. Paul	.61	O'Neill	1.21	Scottsbluff	.43
Fromont	.95	Tekamah	1.16	Revonna	.58	Sidney	.55
Grand Island	.09	Wakarusa	.05	Valentine	.15		
Hartington	.77	York	.54				

PRECIPITATION FOR WEEK ENDING APRIL 24th.



PRECIPITATION (TELEGRAPHIC REPORT) FOR WEEK ENDING APRIL 26th.



HIGHEST AND LOWEST TEMPERATURES (For 24 hrs. ending 6:30 a.m.)

		April		20th		21st		22nd		23rd		24th		25th		26th	
		Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min
NW	Chadron	58	37	66	46	78	41	80	41	70	41	48	--	60	35		
	Scottsbluff	58	30	66	40	77	36	80	39	71	42	--	--	59	39		
	Sidney	64	33	64	38	75	33	79	40	73	42	--	33	60	31		
N-C	Burvell	76	42	62	32	72	52	76	--	32	53	72	48	66	42		
	Valentine	66	40	62	41	72	48	78	56	78	48	59	42	62	44		
NE	Norfolk	73	45	65	36	71	53	68	59	75	64	73	54	65	44		
	Sioux City	76	45	68	41	72	49	68	57	74	63	77	56	66	42		
Gen.	Grand Island	78	40	60	35	73	58	77	60	73	63	74	52	66	46		
E-C	Lincoln	79	46	63	39	72	57	71	63	72	64	80	53	67	48		
	Omaha	82	52	67	46	71	55	66	61	72	63	80	53	68	48		
SW	Hayes Center	70	37	60	35	73	50	78	54	81	48	78	43	69	37		
	North Platte	70	39	60	33	73	53	70	58	81	49	72	44	65	39		

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